

REMARKS

The Office action of May 20, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully noted.

Claims 1-40 are pending in the application. Claims 1-12, 20, 29, 35, and 38-39 have been deemed allowable. The remaining claims 13-19, 21-28, 30-34, 36-37, and 40 have been canceled without prejudice to put the application in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks submitted above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the remaining claims are allowable and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

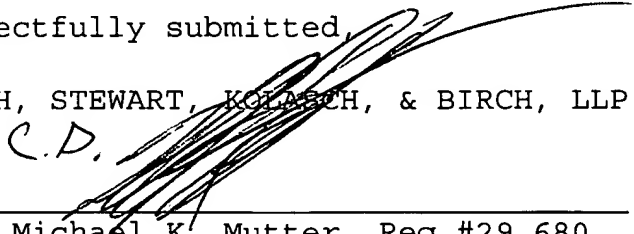
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 to discuss the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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by


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